

# WORKPLACE

## CONNECTION

"ENRICHING LIVES"

May / June 2011

Vol. 21, Issue 3

### MTA Board Approves Antonovich Motion For Metrolink Study



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) board, on a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, has voted to work with Metrolink officials to upgrade tracks between the Antelope and Santa Clarita Valleys and Union Station in downtown Los Angeles.

"Currently, the 76.6 mile route takes two hours for end-to-end service," said Supervisor Antonovich, Mayor of the Board of Supervisors and second vice chairman of the MTA board. "How can we cut an hour from the commute?" he asked.

The Mayor said that decreasing travel times on the Metrolink Antelope Valley line may draw commuters from their cars and reduce traffic congestion on the Antelope Valley Freeway and Interstate 5.

There are 63 at-grade pedestrian and vehicle crossings along the train line, raising serious safety concerns. A portion of the line also includes long

See **MTA** continued on page 3



Photos by Martin Zamora

Supervisor Michael Antonovich and Supervisor Don Knabe, right, present a "Volunteer of the Year" scroll to honoree Jeanne Powers of Lancaster during the annual "Volunteer of the Year Recognition and Awards" ceremony held in the Grand Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center. More than 400 guests, including youth and adult honorees, were in attendance. At left, Donna Neff, Assessor's Office, sings the national anthem. Paulette Smith, youngest honoree, and the Sheriff's Honor Guard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### County Volunteers Recognized at Annual Luncheon

More than 400 people attended the County's Volunteer of the Year Recognition and Awards ceremony, honoring 27 youth and 53 adults, which was held in the Grand Hall of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center in downtown Los Angeles.

"Volunteers: Sparks of Light" was theme of the 29th annual event.

Val Zavala, Vice President of News and Public Affairs at KCET-TV, was the

mistress of ceremonies. She anchors "SoCal Connected," the station's Emmy award winning news series, which airs weekly. Ms. Zavala previously anchored "Life and Times," the station's signature magazine program for 16 years.

Last year more than 41,600 volunteers donated more than 3.0 million hours to County programs. Based on calculations by the Independent Sector, a national organization, the volunteer hours have a value of \$64.8 million dollars.

See **Volunteers** continued on page 5



Photo by Scott Harris

CEO Bill Fujioka, right, is joined by March of Dimes Co-Chairs, from left, Assessor John Noguez, Sheriff's Commander Karyn Mannis, Fire Chief Daryl Osby and March of Dimes Executive Director Angele Price at the kickoff of the 2011 campaign.

### Bike to Work Month

May is "Bike to Work" month, a great opportunity for employees to use pedal-power to commute to work. Metro bus and rail lines provide bike racks for commuters. Visit [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net) for more information.



MOD story on page 4